

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 TRSE-00 /069 W
-----180947 091821 /10

R 180910Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7754
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0346

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS SHUM LA
SUBJECT: BREAK FROM DETENTION CAMP NEAR VIENTIANE

REF VIENTIANE 1041

1. A LAO TOLD EMBOFF FEBRUARY 18 THAT HIS BROTHER AND
104 OTHER FORMER FAR PERSONNEL HAD ESCAPED PREVIOUS DAY
FROM AN AGRICULTURAL DETENTION CAMP AT KOUT SAM BAT
(TF556205), 32 KILOMETERS FROM VIENTIANE.

2. SOURCE SAID THAT BEFORE THE BREAK THERE WERE
APPROXIMATELY 500 FORMER FAR JUNIOR OFFICERS AND NCO'S
AT THE CAMP WORKING AS AGRICULTURAL LABORERS UNDER
LIGHT GUARD.

THE PRISONERS REPORTEDLY DECIDED TO ESCAPE AFTER
THEY RECEIVED WORD THAT THEY WOULD BE MOVED TO MOUNG
KHEUNG (UG0272) IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SOURCE SAID THOSE
WHO ESCAPED WERE MOSTLY HIDING IN VIENTIANE AREA BUT
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HOPED TO GET OUT TO THAILAND.

4. THE CAMP AT KOUT SAM BAT IS REPORTEDLY ONE OF AT
LEAST THREE CENTERS JUST NORTH OV VIENTIANE WHERE FORMER
FAR PERSONNEL AND FORMER POLICEMEN UNDER THE OLD REGIME
ARE INCARCERATED AS AGRICULTURAL LABORERS. THE OTHERS
ARE AT VEUN KHAM (TF4808), APPROXIMATELY 25 KILOMETERS

FROM VIENTIANE, WHERE APPROXIMATELY 300 FORMER POLICE OFFICERS ARE HELD UNDER LIGHT GUARD, AND DONG BANG (TE4594?) APPROXIMATELY 15 KILOMETERS NORTH OF VIENTIANE WHERE APPROXIMATELY 250 FORMER FAR OCS TRAINEES ARE HELD, ALSO UNDER LIGHT GUARD.

5. COMMENT: BREAK FROM DETENTION CAMP MAY LEAD TO INCREASED SECURITY MEASURES IN VIENTIANE LIKE THOSE IMPOSED FOLLOWING THE APRIL 25, 1976 SAM KHE PRISON BREAK (REFTEL).
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PENAL INSTITUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VIENTI00346
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770058-0520
Format: TEL
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770225/aaaaawgq.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 7d62f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VIENTIANE 1041
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3276036
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BREAK FROM DETENTION CAMP NEAR VIENTIANE
TAGS: PINS, SHUM, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7d62f2c3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009